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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/717,838	11/20/2003	Brian Stanley Locke	ENB-006(E0378.70187USOO)	8559

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EXAMINER

WIENER, ERIC A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2112

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	01/23/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/717,838

Applicant(s)

LOCKE ET AL.

Examiner

Eric A. Wiener

Art Unit

2112

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 November 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 20 November 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 6/13/2005.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 – 31 are pending.
2. The IDS filed on 6/13/2005 has been considered.

Drawings

3. The informal drawings are not of sufficient quality to permit examination. Accordingly, replacement drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to this Office action. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action.

Applicant is given a TWO MONTH time period to submit new drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.81. Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). Failure to timely submit replacement drawing sheets will result in ABANDONMENT of the application.

New corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in this application because figures 1-14 contain illegible handwriting. Applicant is advised to employ the services of a competent patent draftsman outside the Office, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office no longer prepares new drawings. The corrected drawings are required in

reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The requirement for corrected drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1 – 8, 10 – 18, 20 – 29, and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Santos-Gomez (US 6,104,393).

As per claim 1, Santos-Gomez discloses *a system for assisting a user in navigating through a performance of a task, the task including a plurality of sub-tasks (Abstract), the system comprising:*

- *a sub-task performance component to control the serial presentation of two or more of the sub-tasks on a graphical user interface, each of the two or more sub-tasks displayed in a respective panel of the graphical user interface (column 2, line 59 – column 3, line 13), and to enable the user, for each of the two or more sub-tasks, to perform the sub-task by entering information into the respective panel of the sub-task as the sub-task is being presented (column 6, lines 4 – 18)*
- *a sub-tasks list component to control the display of a sub-task list of items to the user on a graphical user interface while the two or more sub-tasks are being presented, each item representing a respective one of the plurality of sub-tasks and including a*

sub-task identifier identifying the respective one of the sub-tasks, including displaying, within at least one of the items, information corresponding to the sub-task represented by the at least one item (column 5, lines 27 – 50).

As per claim 2, and taking into account the rejection of claim 1, Santos-Gomez further discloses that *the sub-task list component is operable, for each of the at least one items, to control the display in the item of information entered by the user in the panel of the sub-task represented by the item (column 8, lines 35 – 45).*

As per claim 3, and taking into account the rejection of claim 1, Santos-Gomez further discloses that *the sub-task list component is operable, for each of the at least one item, to control the change of the information displayed within the item based on information entered by the user in the panel of at least one of the two or more sub-tasks (column 8, lines 35 – 45).*

As per claim 4, and taking into account the rejection of claim 1, Santos-Gomez further discloses that *the sub-task list component is operable to enable the user to perform the two or more of the sub-tasks in a temporal order in which the user selects the two or more items representing the two or more sub-tasks, respectively, from the sub-task list (column 8, lines 47 – 53).*

As per claim 5, and taking into account the rejection of claim 4, Santos-Gomez further discloses that *the sub-task list component is operable to enable the user to perform the two or more sub-tasks in a temporal order that is independent of a positional order in which the two or more sub-task items representing the two or more sub-tasks, respectively, are listed (column 8, lines 47 – 53).*

As per claim 6, and taking into account the rejection of claim 1, Santos-Gomez further discloses that *the sub-task presentation component is operable to determine one or more of the sub-tasks required to perform the task based on information entered by the user in the respective panels of at least one of the two or more sub-tasks* (column 7, lines 37 – 60).

As per claim 7, and taking into account the rejection of claim 1, Santos-Gomez further discloses that *the sub-task presentation component is operable to determine one or more of the items to include in the sub-task list based on information entered by the user in the respective panels of at least one of the two or more sub-tasks* (column 8, lines 35 – 45).

As per claim 8, and taking into account the rejection of claim 7, Santos-Gomez further discloses that *the sub-task presentation component is operable, in the event that information already has been entered by the user for a first sub-task, to determine that an item representing the first sub-task is no longer to be included in the sub-task list and to control notifying the user that confirming an acceptance of the information entered in the first panel will result in the information entered for the second sub-task being discarded* (column 9, lines 37 – 45), where the control of notifying the user is exhibited by the option of including a test that must receive a positive response in order to discard information.

As per claim 10, and taking into account the rejection of claim 1, Santos-Gomez further discloses that *the sub-task list component is operative to vertically orient the sub-task list on the graphical user interface* (Fig. 3A), where the sub-task list is vertically displayed on the left side of the figure.

As per claim 11, the claim is substantially similar to the system of claim 1, except that it is directed to a *computer-implemented method* of executing the system of claim 1. However,

Santos-Gomez discloses a computer-implemented method of executing the system of claim 1 (Abstract, line 1). Therefore, claim 11 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 1.

As per claim 12, and taking into account the rejection of the method of claim 11, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 2.

As per claim 13, and taking into account the rejection of the method of claim 11, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 3.

As per claim 14, and taking into account the rejection of the method of claim 11, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 4.

As per claim 15, and taking into account the rejection of the method of claim 14, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 5.

As per claim 16, and taking into account the rejection of the method of claim 11, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 6.

As per claim 17, and taking into account the rejection of the method of claim 11, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 7.

As per claim 18, and taking into account the rejection of the method of claim 17, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 8.

As per claim 20, and taking into account the rejection of the method of claim 11, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 10.

As per claim 21, the claim is substantially similar to the system of claim 1, except that the system includes a *means for displaying*, within at least one of the items, information corresponding to the sub-task represented by the at least one item. However, Santos-Gomez discloses a means for displaying, within at least one of the items, information corresponding to

the sub-task represented by the at least one item (column 3, 35 – 54), where the means for displaying is exhibited by the inclusion of a computer workstation and a display device. Therefore, the rest of claim 21 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 1.

As per claim 22, the claim is substantially similar to the system of claim 1, except that it is directed to a *computer-readable medium* for executing the methods of the system of claim 1. However, Santos-Gomez discloses a computer-readable medium for executing the methods of the system of claim 1 (Abstract, line 1). Therefore, claim 22 is rejected on the same grounds as claim 1.

As per claim 23, and taking into account the rejection of the computer-readable medium of claim 22, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 2.

As per claim 24, and taking into account the rejection of the computer-readable medium of claim 22, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 3.

As per claim 25, and taking into account the rejection of the computer-readable medium of claim 22, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 4.

As per claim 26, and taking into account the rejection of the computer-readable medium of claim 25, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 5.

As per claim 27, and taking into account the rejection of the computer-readable medium of claim 22, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 6.

As per claim 28, and taking into account the rejection of the computer-readable medium of claim 22, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 7.

As per claim 29, and taking into account the rejection of the computer-readable medium of claim 28, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 8.

As per claim 31, and taking into account the rejection of the computer-readable medium of claim 22, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 10.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 9, 19, and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Santos-Gomez (US 6,104,393) in view of Bach et al. (US 6,128,622).

As per claim 9, Santos-Gomez discloses the system of claim 1. Santos-Gomez does not explicitly disclose that the system is operable to perform the task of creating one or more rules of an access control sub-task list for a network device.

However, in an analogous art, Bach discloses *performing the task of creating one or more rules of an access control sub-task list for a network device* (column 13, lines 8 – 17).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to incorporate the teaching of Bach into the system of Santos-Gomez to develop a system for assisting a user in navigating through a performance of tasks and sub-tasks pertaining to creating rules of an access control sub-task list for a network device. The modification would have been obvious, because Santos-Gomez's configuration wizard would guide a user through the configuration of a computer network (column 1, lines 59 – 64). Thus, a user would want such

a wizard to assist in the configuration of all aspects of a computer network, such as the creation and configuration of rules of an access control sub-task list.

As per claim 19, and taking into account the rejection of the method of claim 11, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 1.

As per claim 30, and taking into account the rejection of the computer-readable medium of claim 22, the claim is rejected on the same grounds as claim 1.

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to the applicant's disclosure. The cited documents represent the general state of the art.

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eric A. Wiener whose telephone number is 571-270-1401. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 9am to 4pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chameli Das, can be reached on 571-272-3696. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

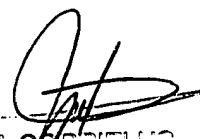
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system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Eric Wiener
Patent Examiner
A.U. 2112



JEAN M. CORNEJO
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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